

REMARKS

The Examiner of record issued a requirement for an election of species directed to the claims that are now pending in the present application, claims 14-28, that were made of record in the Amendment that applicant filed on October 25, 2005. Applicant will now address this election requirement.

In the December 30th Office Action, the Examiner contends that pending claims 14-28 are directed to four patentably distinct species defined by the Figures. The four species based on the Figures are (a) Figures 1, 3, and 4, (b) Figure 2, (c) Figure 5, and (d) Figure 6.

The Examiner did not indicate the claims that would be directed to each species. All the Examiner stated was that Applicant is to “elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held allowable. Currently, e.g., claim 1 is generic.” (Office Action, p. 2, third paragraph) Applicant is, therefore, to select the particular claims of the application that are to be listed with each species identified by the Examiner in order to provide a complete response.

Noting the requirement of the Examiner to select a species to prosecution on the merits in the present application, Applicant selects the species of Figures 1, 3, and 4. This species is at least readable on claims 14-19, 24/14, 27. Applicant agrees with the Examiner that claim 1 is the generic claim for the application.

Applicant has amended claims 14, 17, 18, and 20 to more distinctly claim the invention.

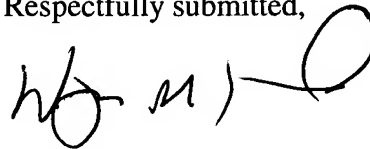
Conclusion

The foregoing fully responds to the Examiner's requirement that a species be elected to be prosecuted on the merits in the present application. As such, prosecution on the merits with regard to claims 14-28 should commence.

In the Amendment dated October 25, 2005, Applicant presented grounds that make plain claims 14-28, in amended form, overcome each of the Examiner's bases for rejection of the claims based on the prior art of record taken alone or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider claims 14-28, in amended form, and pass them to issue in due course because such claim are allowable over the prior art of record for the reasons set forth in that Amendment, and in condition for allowance.

Dated: 1-26-2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne M. Kennard", with a large circular flourish at the end.

Wayne M. Kennard
Attorneys for the Applicant

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
60 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
Tel: 617-526-6183
Fax: 617-526-5000
Attorney Docket Number: 114089.121US1